Amendments to the Specification:

Please replace the title as follows:

~~HOLOGRAPHIC RECORDING MEDIUM, HOLOGRAPHIC RECORDING/ERASING~~

~~METHOD AND HOLOGRAPHIC RECORDING/REPRODUCING APPARATUS~~

HOLOGRAPHIC RECORDING MEDIUM, HOLOGRAPHIC RECORD ERASING

METHOD, AND HOLOGRAPHIC RECORDING AND REPRODUCING APPARATUS

Please replace the paragraph beginning on page 2, line 25, with the following rewritten paragraph:

In summary, the above-described objectives are achieved by the following ~~aspects~~ embodiments of the present invention.

Please replace the paragraph beginning on page 18, line 11, with the following rewritten paragraph:

Generally, holograms are recorded in advance through a reference beam Re_0 and an object beam Ob_0 shown by dotted lines in Fig. 5, and the interference fringes formed by the two laser beams are held as a grating (a diffraction grating) ~~Gr~~ Gv.

Please replace the paragraph beginning on page 18, line 15, with the following rewritten paragraph:

During reproduction, diffraction efficiency becomes maximum when a reproduction beam Rp is incident on the holographic recor ding medium 16 at the same incident angle as that of the reference beam (or the object beam) at the time of recording. Equations (1) to (3) represent the extent to which the diffraction efficiency is reduced when the incident angle is changed.

$$\eta = \sin^2 \sqrt{(\Phi^2 + \chi^2)/(1 + \chi^2/\Phi^2)} \qquad (1)$$

$$\underline{\eta = \sin^2 \sqrt{(\Phi^2 + \chi^2)/(1 + \chi^2/\Phi^2)}} \qquad \underline{(1)}$$

$$\Phi = \pi \Lambda nd / \lambda \cos \theta_w \qquad (2)$$

$$\chi = 2\pi d / \lambda \; \square \Delta\theta \sin \theta_w \qquad (3)$$

Please replace the paragraph beginning on page 26, line 18, with the following rewritten paragraph:

This holographic recording and reproducing apparatus 30 has a reference optical system having a configuration different from that of the abovementioned holographic recording and reproducing apparatus 10 shown in Fig. 1, but the other configurations are the same. Thus, the same numerals are assigned to the portions common to the holographic recording and reproducing apparatus 10, and the description therefor is omitted.